

REMARKS

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1 and 3-29 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 22, 25, 26, and 27 being the independent claims. Claim 29 is added.

Based on the above Amendment and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Statement of Substance of Interview

1. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the interview on August 30, 2005 and provides the following statement of the substance of the interview as required by the Interview Summary.

Date of Interview: August 30, 2005.

Participants: Examiner Vu Le; Dr. Michael A. Sartori; and Dr. Alan J. Lipton.

Type: Personal.

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: No.

Claims discussed: Claims 1 and 2.

Identification of prior art discussed: U.S. Patent No. 6,411,724 to Vaithilingam et al.

Agreement with respect to the claims reached: Not applicable.

Substance of interview: General discussion for clarification purposes. Applicant proposed combining the features of claim 2 to claim 1 to emphasize "extracting event occurrences based on video primitives." Examiner agreed that if an After Final Amendment is filed with an RCE with respect to the proposed amendment, the first Office Action, if needed, will be made non-final.

Rejection based on Vaithilingam

2. On pages 2-3 in section 2, the Office Action rejected claims 1-4, 19-23, and 25-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,411,724 to Vaithilingam et al. (hereinafter Vaithilingam). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As amended, claim 1 incorporates the subject matter of cancelled claim 2. Amended claim 1 recites: a computer-readable medium comprising software for a video surveillance system, comprising code segments for operating the video surveillance system based on video primitives, wherein the code segments for operating the video surveillance system comprise: code segments for extracting video primitives; and code segments for extracting event occurrences based on the video primitives. Vaithilingam fails to teach claim 1 for at least two reasons.

First, Vaithilingam fails to teach operating a video surveillance system. In rejecting claim 1, the Office Action relies on several portions of Vaithilingam as meeting this recitation. However, as pointed out in the Amendment filed January 7, 2005 on pages 7-8, these portions of Vaithilingam fail to teach or suggest operating a video surveillance system. In the Office Action on pages 8-9, the Office Action further points specifically to column 1, line 53 to column 2, line 9 of Vaithilingam as meeting the claimed recitation. The Office Action, however, misunderstands the teachings of Vaithilingam.

Vaithilingam teaches a technique to increase the efficiency and speed of retrieving multimedia information from a repository by providing a standard representation of the multimedia information. Vaithilingam, column 2, lines 13-23. Vaithilingam teaches that the standard representation of the multimedia information is meta-descriptors for the descriptors of

the multimedia information. Vaithilingham, column 2, lines 22-29; Abstract, lines 1-5.

Vaithilingham does not care what type of system generated the multimedia information and, in the passage recently cited by the Office Action, lists several examples of types of multimedia information including education, journalism, entertainment, investigation, surveillance, real estate, and interior design. Vaithilingham, column 1, lines 9-29. Vaithilingham addresses retrieving this multimedia information from a repository, and nothing else. Vaithilingham, column 1, lines 29-31 and 37-39; column 2, lines 13-23.

The Office Action makes the error that because Vaithilingham teaches retrieving surveillance multimedia information from a repository, Vaithilingham must teach operating a video surveillance system. If this were true, Vaithilingham would likewise teach operating a school because Vaithilingham teaches retrieving education multimedia information from a repository, publishing a newspaper because Vaithilingham teaches retrieving journalism multimedia information from a repository, producing a motion picture because Vaithilingham teaches retrieving entertainment multimedia information from a repository, conducting a detective stake-out because Vaithilingham teaches retrieving investigation multimedia information from a repository, selling real estate because Vaithilingham teaches retrieving real estate multimedia information from a repository, and furnishing a house because Vaithilingham teaches retrieving interior design multimedia information from a repository. See Vaithilingham, column 1, lines 9-29. Vaithilingham has no such teachings, and likewise has no such teachings for operating a video surveillance system. Thus, Vaithilingham fails to teach operating a video surveillance system.

Second, Vaithilingham fails to teach extracting event occurrences from video primitives. This recitation from amended claim 1 was originally recited in claim 2. In an exemplary embodiment of the invention, a video primitive refers to an observable attribute of an object viewed in a video feed. Examples of video primitives may include a classification, a size, a shape, a color, a texture, a position, a velocity, a speed, an internal motion, a motion, a salient motion, a scene change, a feature of a scene change, and a pre-defined model. See, e.g., specification, page 13, paragraph 80. Event occurrences are extracted from the video primitives. As an example, an event occurrence may be a “wrong way” event defined by a person traveling the “wrong way” into an area between 9:00a.m. and 5:00p.m. This exemplary event occurrence may be extracted from video primitives which have the following properties: a timestamp between 9:00a.m. and 5:00p.m., a classification of “person” or “group of people”, a position inside the area, and a “wrong” direction of motion. See, e.g., specification, page 21, paragraph 118.

In rejecting claim 2, the Office Action cites column 11, line 14 to column 12, line 14 of Vaithilingham. This passage of Vaithilingham discusses the MPEG-7 format. The MPEG-7 format, as appreciated by the Examiner during the interview, only addresses descriptors. The MPEG-7 format does not teach, or even fairly suggest, extracting event occurrences based on video primitives. Thus, Vaithilingham fails to teach extracting event occurrences based on video primitives.

Claims 3-4 and 19-21 depend variously from claim 1, and are allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim.

Claim 22 recites similar features as claim 1 and is allowable for at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 23 depends from claim 22, and is allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim.

Claim 25 recites similar features as claim 1 and is allowable for at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 26 recites similar features as claim 1 and is allowable for at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 27 recites similar features as claim 1 and is allowable for at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 28 depends from claim 27, and is allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim.

Rejection based on Vaithilingam and Collins

3. On pages 4-8 in section 4, the Office Action rejects claims 5-18 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vaithilingam in view of "A System for Video Surveillance and Monitoring," by Collins et al.

Claims 5-18 depend variously from claim 1, and are allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim.

Claim 24 depends from claim 22, and is allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim.

Added Claim

4. Claim 29 is added. Support for claim 29 can be found, for example, at page 18, paragraph 106 of the specification. Claim 29 depends from claim 1, and is allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim.

CONCLUSION

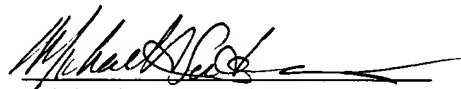
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that all presently outstanding rejections be reconsidered and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

September 15, 2005



Michael A. Sartori, Ph.D.

Registration No.: 41,289

VENABLE

P.O. Box 34385

Washington, D.C. 20043-9998

Telephone: (202) 344-4000

Telefax : (202) 344-8300